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PRESS RELEASE

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**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION
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IDENTITY THEFT GUILTY PLEA

Terrell L. Harris, United States Attorney for the Western District of Tennessee, announced today that on Wednesday, May 1, 2002, Toya Maxwell entered a plea of guilty to a charge of conspiracy to commit identity theft, possess stolen mail, possess counterfeit securities, and commit bank fraud. Ms. Maxwell is one of 17 defendants indicted on February 27, 2002 for participation in an identity theft scheme. The scheme which involved the use of stolen and counterfeit checks being passed with the aid of fraudulent identification documents occurred between October 5, 2000 until June 6, 2001.

The defendant faces a maximum term of incarceration of imprisonment of five years and a maximum fine of \$250,000.

The United States Postal Inspection Service investigated the case. Assistant United States Attorney Tracy Berry is the prosecutor.

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